Ska & Oi! Skinzine

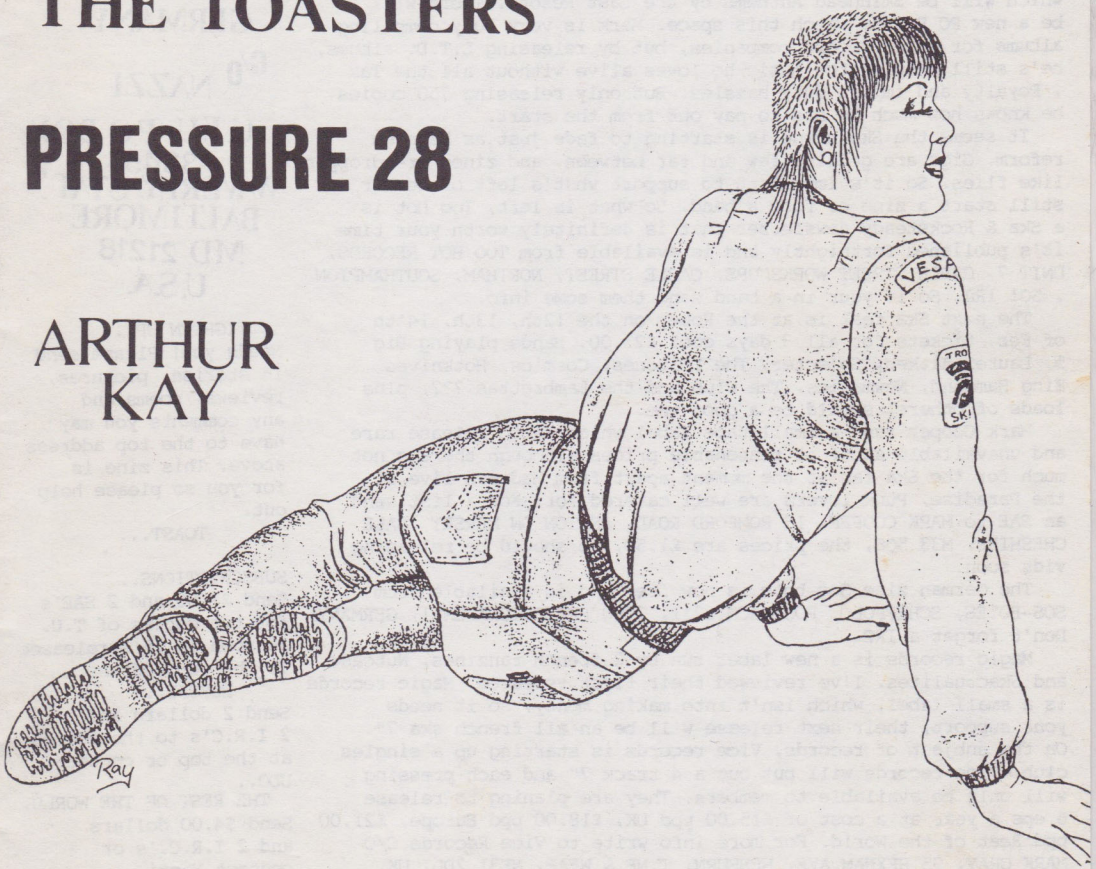
TIGHTEN UP!

THE GUTTERSNIPES

THE TOASTERS

PRESSURE 28

ARTHUR KAY



No. 10

50p

SKINFO

As ever I'll start off with an apology last issue wasn't as good as it should of been, bad layout and even worse printing. Sorry but with two weeks till my wedding I panicked and rushed it. I've also looked at other printers, but that would mean a increase in cover price and I don't want to do that. I hope this issue is better.

Well we made it to issue 10, thanks to everyone who's supported us and we do hope you'll continue to do so. We have tried to produce an informative, non-political zine and will continue to do so with your help we can produce a top quality skinzine. So keep sending in info and any comments lets hear them.

So what's been happening. Link records has finished trading as a record company. Mark told me he's working long hours, getting loads of hassle, for very little in return. But all is not lost, Street Link will move over to DoJo, and Mark plans to bring out limited edition albums on a New label Captain Oi! the first of which will be Skinhead Anthems by the Last Resort. There will be a new PO BOX so watch this space. Mark is very busy compiling albums for other record companies, but by releasing L.T.D. albums, he's still keeping the music he loves alive without all the Tax , Royalty and import duty hassles. But only releasing 750 copies he knows how much he has to pay out from the start.

It seems the Ska scene is starting to fade just as Madness reform. Gigs are getting few and far between, and zines are dropping like flies. So it's important to support what's left or better still start a zine or form a band. So what is left, Too Hot is a Ska & Rocksteady newsletter that is definitely worth your time it's published fortnightly and is available from TOO HOT RECORDS, UNIT 7, CABLE STREET WORKSHOPS, CABLE STREET, NORTHAM, SOUTHAMPTON , SO1 1RJ. So if your in a band send them some info.

The next Ska fest is at the Robey on the 12th, 13th, 14'th of Feb, tickets for all 3 days cost £21.00. Bands playing Big 5, Laurel Aitken, Selecter, The Deltones, Cosmics, Hotknives King Hammond, Newmatics, The Club and the Lambrettas ???, plus loads of others, should be a good one.

Mark Cooper runs a small tape label which is to release rare and unavailable stuff at reasonable prices although there's not much for the Ska fan at the moment apart from Madness live at the Paradise, Punk lovers are well catered for. For a list send an SAE to MARK COOPER, 13 ROMFORD ROAD, ASHTON ON MERSEY, SALE CHESHIRE, M33 5QS, the prices are £1.50, he should be releasing vids soon.

The German zine Sos-bote is now free and is available from SOS-BOTES, SCHEFFOLD, POSTFACH 2211, 7990 FRIEDRICHAFEN 1, GERMANY, Don't forget a IRC.

Magic records is a new label run by 2 french fanzines, Nutcase and Skactualites. I've reviewed their first released. Magic records is a small label, which isn't into making money, so it needs your support, their next release will be an all french ska 7". On the subject of records. Vice records is starting up a singles club. Vice records will put out a 4 track 7" and each pressing will only be available to members. They are planing to release 6 eps a year at a cost of £15.00 ppd UK, £18.00 ppd Europe, £21.00 ppd Rest of the World. For more info write to Vice Records C/O MARK GRAY, 95 HEXHAM AVE, HEBBURN, TYNE & WEAR, NE31 2DL, UK. Don't forget a SAE.

TIGHTEN UP
1 SHAH PLACE
RAMSGATE
KENT
CT11 7QD

OVERSEAS

C/O UDO VOGT
HAUPTSTR 144
W-5102
WURSELEN
GERMANY

C/O NAZZI
U.F.U. PO BOX
33455
WAVERLY STAT'
BALTIMORE
MD 21218
U.S.A.

TIGHTEN UP...
Needs you! Please send in stories, pictures, reviews, poems and any comments you may have to the top address above. This zine is for you so please help out.

TOAST...

SUBSCRIPTIONS..
Send £1.00 and 2 SAE's for two copies of T.U. as soon as it's releasec To the top address.

EUROPE..
Send 2 dollars and 2 I.R.C's to the address at the top or contact UDO..

THE REST OF THE WORLD.
Send $4.00 dollars and 2 I.R.C.'s or contact Nazzi..

THANK TO...
SUE, UDO, NAZZI, MIKE JOHNSON, NASHER, TREV, ARTHUR KAY, SHUG 'ONEIL OF THE GUTTERSNIPES, PRESSURE 28, THE TOASTERS, HERM FOR THE INFO, JOHN FOR THE CUTTINGS, BOISTEROUS, ERASE TODAY, NEWMATICS, AGENT BULLDOG, TOM COLLINS AND HIS BAND, VERSKA VIS, ALL AT LINK, VICE RECORDS, ALL THE WRITERS OF ZINES KEEP AT IT, AND EVERYONE WHO CONGRATULATED ME AND SUE ON OUR MARRIAGE.

Here at the Tighten Up offices we received two record collected lists, which you should check out. The first from R DALKE, P.O.BOX 103, ADDLESTONE, SURREY, KT15 3PH, UK. which contained some pretty good stuff. R Dalke also produces some interesting books listing label releases. Just send a SAE to obtain details of his products. The second was from Pirate records, this list was a clearance sale of singles all at £3.00 each and contained some good stuff, once again send a SAE if you want a reply. PIRATE RECORDS C/O A WINSTANLEY, PENRHOS, CAEATHRO, CAERNARVON, GWYNEDD, NORTH WALES, LL55 2TA. UK.

Onto band news, Intensified are releasing a single which should be out just before christmas, it will be of a limited pressing so get your orders in to find out price and postage write to S HARRINGTON, 82 CHURCH RD, FOLKESTONE, KENT, UK.

Apollo 7 have reformed and are now called the New Apollo 7, there is a line up change, the band has a new singer and drummer and should be giging in December if anyone wants to book them contact CARL, 13 ALLAN CLOSE, RUSTHALL, TUNBRIGE WELLS KENT, TN4 8PL. They also have a few T-shirts left at £4.50 plus P&P, but write first.
Skaface has just released a CD with song book and the band also produce a newsletter each month, I've no address and I do wish to interview them so if any French reader could help me out I'd be most grateful.

Andi of Ranger Skins is organizing a Skinhead Summer holiday for August 1993, if you fancy going contact Andi for more info. ANDI..RANGER SKINS, "THE GAME KEEPERS", MAPLEDURWELL, BASINGSOKE, HAMPSHIRE, RG25 2LU, UK.

Pressure 28's old drummer left the band to go to the U.S.A for 4 months, he went out on the piss got totally arseholed and ended up getting arrested for Drunk and disorderly he was fined and sent home. While we are on the subject of being pissed up, Steve DIY is trying to put together a fanzine fill with stories of people drunken exploits, if you have one send it to P.O. BOX 253, OAKENGATES, TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE, TF2 6UH, UK.

This issue is a bit chaotic, the second part of behind the scene will be in the next issue as Pork Pie records didn't send the discography in time. Also just as I was finish off I received a load of stuff to review, I've crammed it in where I could ok over to Nazzi.

ALL THE BEST....

LETTER FROM A AMERICA.....

I'm not exactly sure how to introduce this band. The Pie Tasters are the most wonderful band I've heard, their energy and talent far surpasses anything I have seen and heard.

The Pie Tasters started playing in 1990 as the Slugs and now they are back. They describe their sound as "Horn-Driven Ska/Reggae occasionally washing over into surf sounds and Salsa", but I describe them as fun.

Their line up includes 2 singers and an incredible horn section along with their traditional 4 piece Ska band, the voices of Tal and Steve provide a unique blend and add spice to their music. The band has played over 30 shows so far, ranging from college frat parties to opening for such bands as the New York Citizens, Bim Ska La Bim, The SKatalites and the Unite For Unity Ska fest. The Pie Tasters really do always leave their drunken fans screaming for more, especially when they cover Drinking and Driving or their traditional finale Factory Concerto, which is now available on their newly released Slugton Records single. For more info contact me or Slugtone at 3323 WESSYNTON WAY, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22309, USA.

CHEERS NAZZI....

NEXT ISSUE

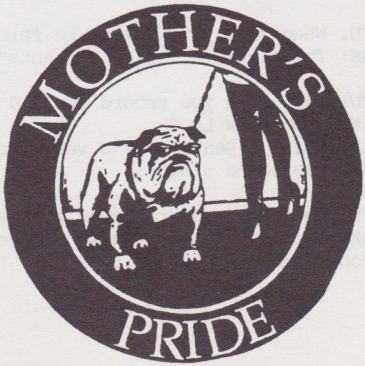
BIG SHOT

TOM COLLINS

CANADIAN SKINS

ERASE TØDAY

ERASE TØDAY



ARTHUR KAY

Arthur Kay really doesn't need an intro, he's a real talented musician. He played Bass for The Last Resort, and fronted The Originals, and he's just had his life story published by ST publishing so he's a writer as well. So if you want to find out any more about this man read his book. On with the interview.

TU: When did the band reform ?
AK: We reformed the Originals in March 92, to record another Ska album.

TU: Who's in the line up at the moment ?
AK: On the new Lp I played Keyboards, Bob Coltant-Guitar, Kevin Bowyer-Bass, Ian Cheswick on Drums, Nick Mortimer on Alto sax and Tom Hodges of Intensified on Tenor Sax.

TU: I read that you did session work in the sixties, with a number of Ska bands, who and can you remember any interesting stories that you could tell my readers ?
AK: A lot of my sixties demo work is covered in my book "Watching The Rich Kids". But here's a couple of stories. I did a session with Rico on a really crap single for Decca once. Also I used to do sessions work for Emill Shallit of Blue Beat records for young Jamaican Reggae hopefulls, I got paid beer money for the sessions.

TU: Were you surprised that your singles were re-released on Skank ?
AK: I was glad to see them released again.

TU: What sort of audience did you attract in the early days ?
AK: Mainly Mods, crooks, jack the lads and football supporters.

TU: Did you ever think the band would still be recording and playing live for this length of time ?
AK: No.

TU: What do you think of the current ska scene in this country ?
AK: It's sad that there is no recording outlet for British bands as there is so much talent around.

TU: What has been your best gig to date ?
AK: The George Robey with the Balham Alligators, we got 140 quid each.

TU: I heard rumours that you have been practicing with Intensified, will you be playing any dates with them ?
AK: Intensified are the best new band around I've heard and I'm looking forward to doing a few spots with them. Until I get a permanent Originals together.

TU: When will your new Lp be released and can you tell us anything about it ?
AK: The album is called "Intents" and should be coming out on Pork Pie records (Hopefully).

TU: What made you record Craig & Bentley and was there any reason for you to include it on the new Lp ?
AK: Craig & Bentley is a very personal song and it's on my Acoustic Album "Last of the one named singers".

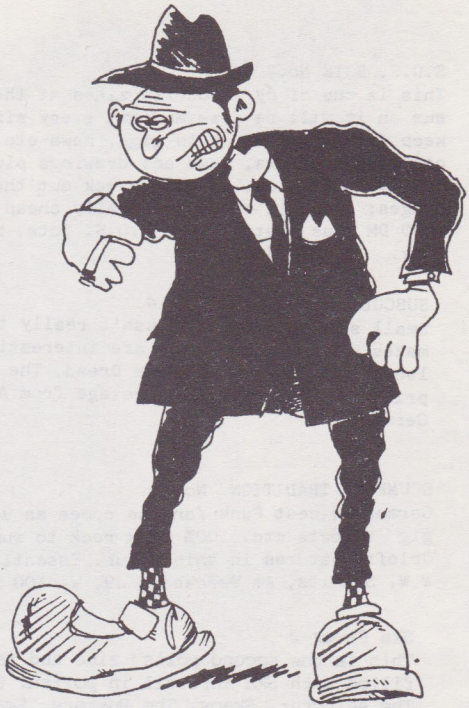
TU: Where do you draw your influences from ?
AK: Dion, Gary U.S. Bonds, Prince Buster, The Who, Puccini and Beethoven and Spike Jones and his City Slickers.

TU: How did you join the Last Resort
AK: I was Roi's Bass guitar teacher then saxo left the band and I was invited to join. Of all the bands I've played with the Last Resort was my personal favourite.

TU: Did you enjoy being in both bands at the same time ?
AK: The Originals had fold by the time I joined The Last Resort.

TU: Having come from a Ska back ground, what made you play in an Oi band ?
AK: The Last Resort was a rock band when I joined them they sounded the closest thing I had heard to the early Who.

TU: Do you still see any of the old members ?
AK: I still see Roi and Charlie (pestering them to reform)!!



TU: Anything else to say ?
AK: Enjoy being a Skinhead but leave the politics to the Politicians. Jimmy Pursey was right if the kids all stuck together things will be alright. Its easy to be destructive but far more worthwhile to be creative.

Arthur's new solo Album is available on Music cassette from New Moon Records, 27 fort Road Margate, Kent, CT9 1HF, UK.
Price £3.50 - including P&P, Overseas add an extra £0.50.

ZINES

S.O.S. BOTE No.7
This is one of my favourite zines at the moment and the big news is that from the next issue on it will be free and out every six weeks, so keep in touch if you speak the lingo and keep them informed as to gigs, news etc. Issue 7 features The Soccer Hoolys, The Bakesy's, countless reviews, news and drawings plus a really weird story, which shouldn't be read below 2.0 promilles. Oh yes, check out their great mailorder service; zines, videos, records, badges; it's all there and really cheap (not to forget their I LOVE SKINHEADS lighter). 2,50 DM plus postage from S.O.S. Bote, Scheffold, Postfach 2211, 7990 Friedrichshafen, Germany. Udo...

SUBCULTURE SKINHEAD No.4
Small skinzine , which hasn't really the best of all lay-outs, but the content more than makes up for this. There are interesting but maybe somewhat short interviews with The Selecter, Bad Manners, Judge Dread, The Straw Dogs and The Skanxters plus some reviews. The price is just DM 1 plus postage from Andi Springer, Hochgernstr. 13a, W-8265 Neuötting, Germany.

SCUMFUCK TRADITION No.20
Germany's best Punk fanzine comes as usual with loads of reviews, bits of news, a comic, gig reports etc. 100% punk rock to sum it up. I think I should mention the special Peter Orloff features in this issue. Essential read, not only for punks. DM 2 plus postage from W.W. Schmitz, Am Beeckbach 29, W-4100 Duisburg 12, Germany.

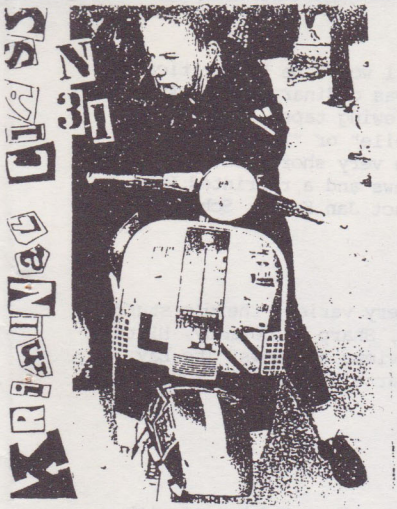
Ska Fever 2
This is the second polish zine and is dedicated purely to Ska music. A5 in size with pages filled with Ska info all in polish. Bands featured in this issue include Bad Manners, The selecter, Skaos, The Busters, Ska Face, Bim Skala Bim, Hotknives, Skunks, Potato 5. I told you it was packed, the polish Skanker has got a great zine. Contact Ska Fever, Igor wower, Ul Baczynskiego 46/54, 41-203 Sosnowiec, Poland.

Boot Party 6
Chicago's Skinzine. Boot Party is a non-political zine and good it is. Covered in this issue are Another Mans Poison, Kick Back, Straw Dogs, Zakarrak. A great zine with some good interviews. Contact Boot Party, P.O Box 146351, Chicago 11, 60614-6351, USA.

Rude 18
I don't know why I review this as by now you must all know how good it is. It's all ways filled with Ska info and this each covers Ska Face, Durango 95, 100 Men, Verska Vis, King Appartus and Tim Wells does his bit. Rude must be Britains' top Ska zine well produced, well written and well good. Contact Rude, 26a Craven Road, Newbury, Berks, RG14 5NE, UK.

Street Rock 'N' Roll 3
Spanish Oi, Punk zine it covers Vacant lot, PKRK, Red Alert plus record reviews, News and an article on Scooters. The Spanish Oi boy must be well pleased with this zine a goldmine of info. Contact Jordi J, AP CO 8041 08080, Barna, Spain.

Red Stripe For Miss Jamaica 3
What a zine, the only problem it's all in french. Covering The Termites, Justin Hinds, Derrick Morgan, The Equals and a long article on Jamaican music. If only I could read french, what a zine. Contact Kalita Greg, 2r Felix Terrier, 75020 Paris France.



Welcome to the real world 2
Seans second edition and good it is too. So what's in this issue, well it starts off with MMR Presents which turns out to be an interview with Fish the new punk promoter. his is followed with Intensified, music reviews, zine Reviews, The Elite, The Adicts plus news from the Oi and Punk world. The zine is packed there's live reviews and two American Oi bands are interviewed. A great zine and it's going to get better as Sean has informed me that it's going to get better. Contact WTTRW 6 Purbeck Court, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 8YX, U.K.

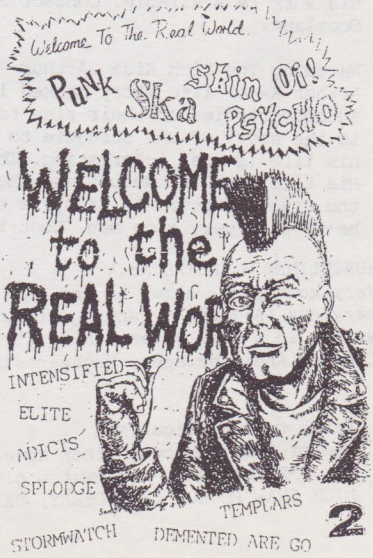
The Catalogue 2
Not really a zine more of a sales list similar to Hotshot only cheaper, covering records, Shirts, trousers, Suits etc. It contains a lot of good stuff and is worth supporting. To obtain it send a SAE or IRC to TIM, 5 Doncaster Gardens, London, N14 1HX, UK.

SCHMUTZIGE ZEITEN No.3
Great skinzine from former East Germany. As in every issue there's only very few Ska in here, but there are interviews with Condemned 84 (seem to be a bit dodgy now), George Marshall and Another Man's Poison, an extensive review section, gig reports, comments and newspaper cuttings. I think this one is soon going to fill the gap of Shock Troops (RIP). It costs 3 DM plus postage and is available from Kay Nagel, PA70 (Postlagernd), O-1570 Potsdam, Germany. Udo...

SKINTONIC No.12
This time Germany's most professional skinzine comes complete with a free four track single which features Blechreiz, The Shamrocks, Ngobo Ngobo and Die Kassierer, so it seems logical that this issue is more expensive than usual, but one of the bands which are on this single have told me that the bands pay for the single, so the higher price aims at filling the pockets of the Skintonic crew in my opinion. Well, if this isn't correct, please Ulli write to me and tell me your version of this. And what I would like to know is why you don't review Tighten Up in your pages. Anyway, this issue features Agent Bulldog, Klasse Kriminale, Mr. Review, Asoziale, Cockney Rejects and loads more in a great lay-out. 5 DM plus postage from Postlagerkarte 077 581-C, 1000 Berlin 44, Germany. Udo...

OI 'N' Roll 2
This is the first of two Polish zines I've received. Oi 'N' Roll is pure Skinhead, it mainly covers Oi but has two Ska pieces, Bad Manners and The Busters. I can't read a word of it so I don't want to comment on the writing quality. It's good to see Non-political Skinzines in a different language. Keep up the good work Marcin. Contact Marcin Kopec, Antoniukowska 19a/40 15-740, Bialystok, Poland.

Kriminal class 31
Italy's top skinzine is back and packed as usual. Incivili, Springtoifel, Bullshit, Blitz, Red Alert. A piece on the Klasse Kriminale tour with centre page spread of photos. The Frits and the Wretched Ones also get a look in. Contact K. C. Via Nizza, 43/4-17100 Savona, Italy.



Small Wonder 1
A new Mod zine from Germany and as this is the debut issue I won't be too critical. It comes in a A4 format, but to be honest if the type set was ordinary size 6 A5 pages would have been adequate, and I can't see any sense in reviewing tapes, singles with just one sentence like : "Quite funny but boring after a while" or "I've expected more and don't like it at all." Besides this there are some very short features on Skar Face, Cream Emotions, HDA, Lord Skaman some live reviews and a reprinted Paul Weller interview from "Spex" a German music magazine. Contact Jan Kroll, Schulstr 38, 4322 Sprockhoevel, Germany. Udo...

Oi! Reka 5
5th and maybe the last issue of this zine. As usual it is very varied, there's stuff on No Sports, The Potsdam Ska Fest, Sham 69, Trojan Records, Sharp in Germany, Blitz, Red Alert and there is even a film review plus many more reviews and News. The Lay out is much better than previous issues. Contact Postlagerkarte 077717-C, W-1000 Berlin 144. Udo...

BOOKS

Kinder Nacht Comic Book 1
A new comic book story from Vancouver. The plot line is very strong and begins with two Scooterists getting wiped out by Nazi Skins. It turns out that, no I ain't going to tell you. This comic book is really good you will just have to get it yourself. It will set you back two Canadian dollars plus postage. Contact Kinder Nacht, Box No 4-1131, Barclay St, Vancouver B.C. Canada.

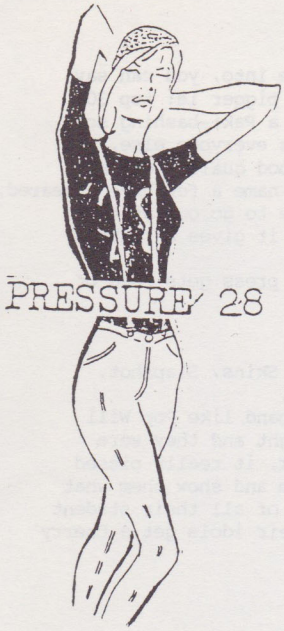
Skin Graphic Novel
The story of a Thalidomide Skinhead in the sixties. It's violent, has sex in it and loads of Skins. The principal character is Martin and the story line shows how he deals with deals with his disability. He flips out at the end. A great read but it left me thinking how he does what at the end with such short arms. The story was refused by a number of publishing houses before it was picked up by Tundra. Full colour all the way though. Price 3.99 from all good comic stores.

The Complete Richard Allen Vol One
Skinhead, Suedehead and Skinhead Escapes all under one cover. 288 classic pages. Up until now it was difficult to find Richard Allen books and when you did they were being sold at over inflated prices. Well not any more St Publishing has neatly packed the first three books for under seven pounds, so now everyone has access to Richards' work and with St Publishing bringing out volume two soon it won't be long before all his work is available. Contact St Publishing, P O Box 12, Dunoon, Argyll. PA 23 7BQ, Scotland.

Watching The Rich Kids Arthur Kay
Arthur Kays' life story packed into 103 pages. The hero's of Rock 'N' Roll have had autobiographies of their rise to fame. But what about the normal Musicians. Well this is the story of one struggle to the top and although Arthur doesn't quite make it his life is most interesting. The book covers his childhood, teens and latter years. His time with the Resort and the Aligators. I was riveted to this book right up to the final chapter, if Arthur's talent and creativeness was measured in money I'm sure he'll be a very rich man. Cost £5.95 + P&P from St Publishing, Address as above.

SUBCULTURE SKINHEAD No.5
Very good small skinzine and this issue's much better than its No.4. There are only two interviews (Arthur Kay and Agent Bulldog), but many gig reports, reviews etc. Andi, the editor writes in a real entertaining style, so support him by getting the zine.
Contact Andi Springer, Hochgernstr. 13A, W-8265 Neuötting, Germany.

Birth Of A Hooligan No3
One of Britains best zines covering the lot. Included in this issue, Sham 69, Pressure 28, AMP, Madness, Stormwatch plus football, soul news and reviews. A great read Contact MICK SHAW PO BOX 128, DERBY, DE1 9 PX, UK.



Pressure 28 are a new Oi band from shropshire, there name comes from an old Scooter club in Oswestry the bands home town. Pressure 28 is the tyre pressure of a scooter, although some people, well trendy left wingers believe it stood for Blood and Honour. The two being the second letter of the alphabet the B and eight the H, it makes me wonder who sat their and thought it out. Enough of my waffle on with the interview.

TU: What made you play Oi music ?
COL: Kev & Arny held me down and force fed me soapwater until I agreed to play Oi, seriously though the band had done all that before I joined so I didn't have any choice in the matter, not that I'd have it any other way mind.
KEV: Oi music is the only music I really like its got bollocks, meaning and it's played by people who are just like you and me and not ponsed up rich kids who wish to impress their college friends.
ARNY: Oi music cos that's almost all I listen to and its not just music it gives you a chance to get your word across.

TU: How many of you are skins and for how long ?
Kev: To be honest none of us are Skinheads, were all New Age Travellers (N.A.T.) and the picture you see of us are just our faces stuck onto Skinheads bodies. Kev has been a N.A.T or is it S.H.A.T. since 1987, Arny since 1990 and Col just to prove that it ain't dying, since this year.

TU: What's the Oi scene like in your area ?
COL: As dead as a Dodo except for those slobberin drunken bastards who come up to you in the pub and say "your a Skinhead ain't ya" and then they start jumping about doing a horrible rendition of "Hurry Up Harry".
KEV: The Oi scene in Oswestry which is now known as Oi!swestry because it is so good round here and is absolutely amazing almost unbelievable and being the only Oi band in the area, we are chased down the street by adoring women everytime we step out of the front door, honestly, or as they would say in Waynes World "NOT!"

TU: What does Oi music mean to you ?
COL: It's something that's for us, the people on the streets, something that will never be hijacked by the trendy middle class fashion freaks as they know that if they try we'll just do them over.
KEV: Oi is something that reflects our own lives and the lives of others, it can be about anything and everything. Oi is the people who like it. (Fuckinhell that was a bit deep)
ARNY: To me I see Oi music as something for punks and skins and not for any jumped up middle class trendies or student types.

TU: What type of feed back have you had back off the demo ?
COL: Quite alot, interviews from France, Spain, Finland, Poland, Germany, America etc, and I'll bet my bottom dollar that kev will give me another to do as soon as I give him this one.
KEV: I've been pretty chuffed with the reviews and the sales of the demo so far, we ain't had a bad review yet. We was a bit edgy about releasing it when it was first recorded because of the poor quality but then though we've heard worse, but it's gone down a treat.

TU: I heard you will be on a comp Lp can you tell us anything about it ?
KEV: Yeah we had a letter off Hammer records in London saying that they are putting together a comp Lp of British Oi! bands and if we were interested to send two songs for consideration, so we sent them off and they accepted. Since then they've sent the dosh down to go into the studio, but we ain't been in yet.

TU: There are a number of new Oi bands coming up, do you think Oi is resurfacing ?

COL: I hope it'll get so when people ask what sort of music you're into, you can say Oi! without them saying "What's that". I hope it doesn't get any bigger ie: top 30 as you'll get all the papers saying every Skinhead and his dog is a Paki-bashing son of a bitch who doesn't deserve the right to breath the same air as everyone else.
KEV: Oi! is certainly on the up within the last year and a half good quality Oi bands like the Elite, Boisterous, Straw Dogs and Another Mans Poison to name a few have appeared, I don't know what'll come of it but who cares it gives us a chance to go out at the weekends and see some decent music being played, have a laugh and it gives an extra boost to the skinhead cult.
ARNY: It seems to be, lets hope it gets strong enough, before the press gets hold of it and slags it down.

TU: What bands would you most like to play with ?
COL: There's too many to list but a few would be, Cock Sparrer, 4 Skins, Slapshot, Sham 69 (as they were when they first started out) anyone really.
KEV: Michelle Phieffers band if she ever had one or some student band like Pop Will Eat Itself, because they were interviewed on the box the other night and they were asked what sort of music they thought they were and they said Punk, it really pissed me off there no more Punk than Jason Donovan. So to play with them and show them what real punk sounds like and then kick the fuck out of them in front of all their student hippy followers and see the grasps of horror on their faces as their idols get a Cherry Red Doc in the teeth.
ARNY: 4-Skins Section 5.

TU: How many gigs have you played, which was the best ?
KEV: We ain't done a load of gigs yet, which doesn't bother us really as we've only just started off but next year we are going to gig as much as possible, so if there's anywhere in anybody's town or city to play drop us a line it can be a right shit hole it doesn't bother us even the smallest of pubs we don't really care. All the gigs we have played so far have gone down really well and have been a good laugh. There was a message in Scootering in the smalls that said "I went to see Pressure 28 on the (I can't remember the date now) and they were brilliant and I'd travel anywhere to see them again", oh yeah and it said "especially to the lead singer as he's really horny" I had to get that bit in.

TU: Did you know each other before the band ?
COL: Yeah we've known each other for 4 or 5 years since we all used to ride scooters about causing havoc.
KEV: Yeah too fuckin long as well.
TU
TU: Have you anything else you wish to say to my readers ?
COL: Cheers for the interview and the interest in the band if anyone hasn't heard the demo yet. Why the fuck not! send a blank tape or £1.00 to FLAT 2, STANLEY PLACE, SALOP ROAD, OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE, SY11 2RG. or if you want to be really daring send it to flat 3 stanley place etc. As Kev gets all the mail and I want some so there, moan moan , bloody moan gimme some mail please !
KEV: As colins plea for attention falls on deaf ears. Yes he and his bird have just moved into the flat above me so anyone feeling sorry for him, drop him a line before he starts raiding my letter box. Yeah and cheers again for the interview and thanks to all the other mags that have shown support. Skinhead Times, Last Chance, Birth of a Hooligan etc, and all the foreign mags as well.
ARNY: Thanks for the interview love Jason..

CHEERS PRESSURE 28.....

MASS MEDIA

This is a new column which will cover Skinhead related items in the Press and on T.V, if you see anything of interest in your local paper or T.V. station, photo copy it or write in and tell us about it, with your help we should get some idea of how the media are treating Skins all over the world.

The first item and probably the most controversial, covers Gay Skins. Channel 4 S' Gay and Lesbian information program Out, ran a twenty minute feature on Gay skins, it contained some good footage of '69 Skinheads as well as some clips of 1980 Skins. There were three main interviews which were made up of a S.H.A.R.P. Gay Skin and Two Blood and Honour, Mr Nicky Crane also appeared. The S.H.A.R.P. Skin laid down a good argument about his sexuality and choice of dress. Nicky explained about his gayness and his departure for the right wing scene, but the two Blood and Honour went on about licking boots and other sexual turn on's. The program did put across the point that not all Skins are Racist which was good as more often than not the T.V media portray Skins as right arm raising Thugs. But what spoilt it for me was that the S.H.A.R.P. Skin thought that more Gays should become Skins. Before you start slagging me of for being homophobic, I'm not, but I don't believe people should become Skins unless they are committed to the music and the culture, If they are I'll welcome them with open arms, Gay, X-Causal, X-Ravehead or X-Heavymetal for that matter. But getting your hair cut, wearing big boots and Dancing to Erasure as some in the film did, Doesn't make them Skins.

The next day the sun ran a piece on "Nazi Nick is a Panzi" and it cover more or less what he had said the night before only in more detail.

The Right armers always seem to get more than their fair share of media attention and the Star had an article of about half a page dedicated to the fact that British Boneheads had forged a link with their German counter parts. The reporter stated "Skinheads from Londons' East End and other English cities had visited their German counter parts in Stuttgart." I don't know how true the report is.

The BBC showed a play along similar lines. An English Skin called Union Jack (Yawn) was organizing a Race hate group and had to read a poem at a right Armer gig. He wore a union T-Shirt all the way through the program, I thought they went out with the ark. Anyway the gig gets smashed up by Turks and Union Jack and his mates do a Runner. It's a bit more involved than this as Union Jacks grandfather was polish and this causes tension between the two White warriors. Typical T.V. stereotyping, there was a message there but you failed to see it though all the bad acting.

Select the trendy music magazine ran a 4 page article on the "Battle of waterloo" It reports on the fracas outside Waterloo station, where Anti-Nazi demonstrators clashed with Blood and Honour Skins. It was well written and even mentions that not all Skins are Racist.

Morrissey has been in the press as all ways the NME slagged him for using Skins as his new image. It was a slap dash report with very little research, as the report blame Skins for setting fire to the Hambrough Tavern in Southall in 1981. Most of it covered Morrissey's with small digs at the Skinhead cult.

George Marshall has been in the news quite a bit. The Face had a small article on him releasing the Richard Allen books. But the Independent surpassed its self with 2/3 of a page interview with Mr Marshall. It readdresses the balance and tells it reader that not all Skins are Racist or for that matter political, George puts across a point and it's a good one.

SPLODGE A MESS

PUNK legend Max Splodge tried to kill himself by drinking two pints of brandy and slashing his wrists, it was revealed last night.

Doctors say alcoholic Splodge, 32, is lucky to be alive. He is drying out at a Surrey clinic.

Splodge — real name Martyn Everest — made the suicide bid while depressed after checking out of the hospital.

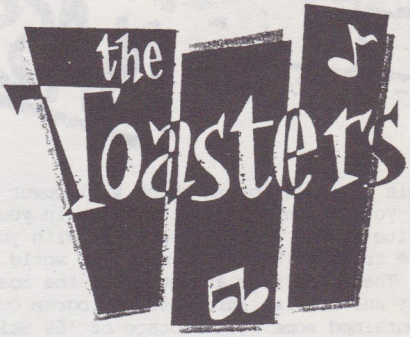
In 1980 his loony band Splodgenessabounds topped the charts with Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps.

City ban on skinheads

THREE skinheads wh were alleged to hav chanted Nazi slogans a they beat up a vagran got bail at Marylebon Court yesterday— o condition they keep ou of London.

Darren Thompson, 2 of Cliftonville, Ken Thomas McNamara, 2 and girlfriend Melani Phillips, 17, from Ports mouth, are due back i court in two weeks.

You know how Americans can talk and go on and on. Well way back at Ska Fest 2, I happened to meet two of the band and some of their followers, I wiped them out, I went home with jaw ache I'll tell you we must of talked about everything from the American Civil war to Levi jeans, you know what my drunken waffle is like. But they listened and took interest, how many big bands do that and this band is big. They play over 200 shows a year in the states, run Moon records and produce some of the hottest American sounds around. Well not wanting to bore the boys to death with my ranting I set up a postal interview and Bucket managed to answer my questions in between the bands heavy tour schedule. Ok here go's.



TU: When did the band first form ?

B: The band first formed in New York in 1984, we didn't start playing regularly and touring until 1986 after the Recriminations Ep came out.

TU: When did you first play live and what were the early gigs like ?

B: First live show was in 1985 at the A7 club downtown NYC. We got paid $30 and got a black eye fighting the audience. Our first gigs were bizarre because nobody in the US was into Ska a the time.

TU: What made you play Ska ?

B: I always liked Ska ever since My Boy Lollipop in '64. Also my elder brother was a Skinhead in Plymouth in 1967 so I got into the Trojan stuff at that time. When I came to American in 1980 it was at the height of the Two Tone movement in the UK and I was flabbergasted that nobody knew what it was here. I remember being appalled at seeing The Beat perform to an empty hall at Roseland (NYC) in 1982. At that point I knew that I was on a mission from god (Blues Brother) to teach these blighters how to do the Ska.

TU: I've always thought of the Toasters as the American equivalent of the Specials, as leading the Ska scene, would I be right in saying tHis ?

B: Largely you could say the Toasters have led the US Ska scene, based on our longevity and the fact that we came out first, but there have been and still are, many more fine US bands, which are just starting to get some recognition in Europe. It's true to say that this is a certain reverence for the band here now, kind of like the feeling you'd have about your grandad, a solid old bloke you feel comfortable with who's always been around.

TU: England is always quoted as being the second home of Ska, do you agree with this and how did you think this country when you toured a few years ago ?

B: After Jamaica Ska wise England takes the biscuit, although I'd say that a lot of the more creative modern Ska bands are not from England (Where the Ska vision tends to be more traditional and narrow beam).

We found it difficult touring in England because the booking agency did a lousy job. There was no promotion and a lot of poorly attended gigs, needless to say we lost a shitload of money. But I'd like to come back and play in front of some larger audiences.

TU: How did the draft sponsorship come about ?

B: The beer sponsorship came on the strength of us playing 200 shows a year. We get free beer and publicity support as well as endorsements from equipment manufactures like Gibson and Remo.

TU: What has been your greatest achievement to date ?

B: Most memorable Toasters moment was our first tour of the U.S.A which was a ground breaking achievement done on a shoe string.

The best feeling is making a living playing Ska music and establishing the label despite being told by everyone in the business we didn't have a chance.

Best gig was outdoors at Northern Illinois University at carbondale in front of 10,000 people.

Biggest thrill was playing with the Skatalites in New York.

TU: You have had some great reviews, can you remember any funny quote from the bad ones ?

B: The Funniest quote was from Scootering magazine on the Recriminations Ep. They liked the band but said they wished the singer would lose the "fake English accent". You got to love that.

TU: How well did your Lp This Gun For Hire do ? (sales, reveiw wise)

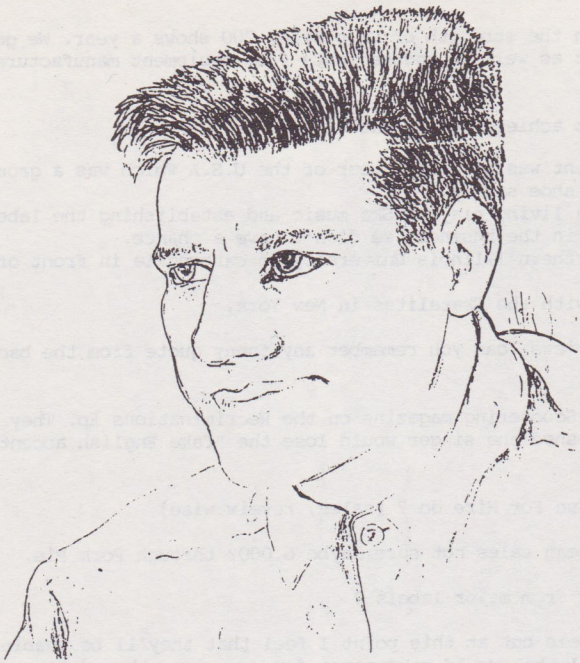
B: US sales about 15,000, European sales not sure maybe 6,000? through Pork Pie.

TU: Has there been any interest from major labels ?

B: Some interest from major labels but at this point I feel that they'll be unable to put together the kind of deal that would make sense for us, since they don't understand the market and they can't pigeon hole the music. We had attempted to write a cross over album with THis Gun For Hire and all that happened was that we alienated the Fans. So now it's back to the Original Toasters Style.

Bucket finished there as he had ran out of time. Thanks alot and keep on playing and producing classic Ska. Toast...

MADSTOCK



"You're Shit AAAHH !!" came the shout from the back when "Gallon Drunk" came on to what was a less than crap set, no tune, no notes for that matter! We got the applause for making our feelings known. They got bottles , cans, stones, shoes, shirts, thrown at them and they went off after 15 minutes.

Flowered Up had a warmer reception, although who knows why ? The crowd were hot, thirsty and longing for Madness. A sea of "Madstock" T-Shirts started to throw stuff and ignore the stage and do those human towers to the pleasure of lookers on. The towers went higher and higher with more and more people, shaking the ground when they collapsed.

This all stopped however as soon as the Blockheads walked on. More than 30,000 people transfixed on "Uncle Ian" "Bastards, arseholes, fuckin', cunts and pricks" sang Uncle. The crowd roared there approval, all the favourites were there. "Hit Me", "Plaistow Patricia", "What A Waste", "Sex 'N' Drugs 'N' Rock 'N' Roll", "Block heads". A great chance to see my favourite non Ska artist in the flesh. The Encore was "Spasticus Artisticus" and another song that I've forgotten (it's my age). Off he went. Those who wanted a piss and a Burger were replaced by Morrissey wanna-bes. The Towers continued, the new thing being girls on top (!), with their breasts (there I said it !) out.

Nice though it was I was getting pissed off with having only 3 inches to stand on so I moved towards the front. Halfway there I stopped to see how my camera would pickout God and his six disciples later on. A fight broke out to my right and a huge gap opened up to let the brawlers amuse themselves, is this what had to do to get space ? it wasn't worth it really, I'd probably lose anyway. The Towers continued.

Morrissey came on with a huge backdrop of two Skinhead girls, which got him his only cheer. "National Front Disco" didn't go down to well with the Skins present (5,000) approx. Fuck Off!! they sang to him, which wasn't really surprising, if he's such a huge star, why doesn't he talk to the crowd between songs ? or smile ? He went off under a shower of debris all in fun of course. The towers continued.

After the roadies farting about on stage and a disco with stuck records, which went down well with the 30,000 closer to 40,000 people singing "Come on Eileen" and "Ganster" plus some other favourites.

The strobe "M" over the stage started to flash. Helicopter noises came out of the huge "Fuck Off" speakers and seven familiar faces lived up for an hysterical historical occasion. They stood there for about a minute for photos and then launched straight into "One Step Beyond" followed by the "Prince" and on through "Madness", "Wings Of

A Dove", "Sun & The Rain", "Close Escape", "Our House", "The Harder They Come", "House Of Fun", "Baggy Trousers", "It Must Be Love", "Night Boat", "Driving In MY Car". The third encore was with Prince Buster himself doing Madness again. A two hour set of lots of hits and some numbers not played live before.

In all it was more animated, friendly, fun concert than the last time I saw them way back in '85. Then they were just going though the motions of a artistic divorce (listen to Mad Not Mads lyrics) and only doing it to sell the L.P. Now they were doing for themselves, for us the fans and for fun which is what it was for us and I'm sure it was for them. I can't remember anyone smiling on the Mad Not Mad tour, but this time it was different, toothy Grins all round and an extra spring in the step of the "Magnificent 7" my god ! They were 19 and we were all 10 years old again. Who needs a Tardis with time travel like this ? and the good news is for those of you who couldn't go, is that it's on TV and Video later in the year, so you can enjoy it with us you lucky, lucky bleeders. See you at the christmas gigs.

MIKE STILL MAD AFTER ALL THESE YEARS JOHNSON...

P.S. If anyone has some excess merchandise like "Madstock" and "Fuck Art" T-shirts or posters then I have a set of 36-colour photos contact me if your interested at 50 HIGHFIELD ROAD, WINTON BOURNEMOUTH, DORSET, BH9 2SG.

THE SEASIDE SPECIAL

Rumours about this gig were going round about four months before it was confirmed. Despite what many people think, Margate is anything but the fun capital of England. The last Punk gig here was way back in '82, so this concert was most welcome.

We got to Margate at about 12'o clock and it was already burstin with Punks, Skins and Weirdos. Most of the pubs were packed with gig go'ers and we started to have a good old drinking session at four we made our way to the winter gardens bellies full of brew. Once in it was straight to the bar as Locals Only were playing a mixture of Punk, Metal and Rap, weird! After a short break Self-Destruct came on playing good old Fashioned Punk and Oi!. Which was more like it, the band sound a bit like Blitz and the Exploited rolled into one, well worth checking out.

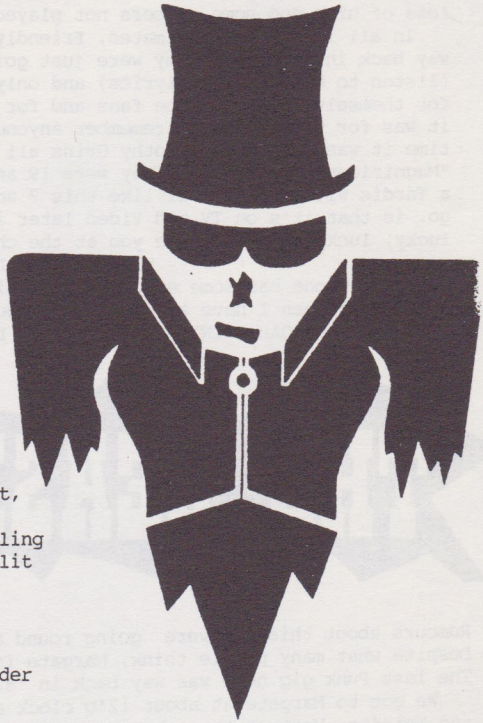
After a few more pints, 999 took the stage, they were brilliant, defiantly one of the most energetic bands around, which is no mean feat considering their age. All the classics like "Homocide", "Emergency", "Red Riding Hood", "I'm Alive" and "Feeling Alright With The Crew" were given the once over to a packed and pleased crowd, brilliant. Following them wasn't going to be easy but with a loud bang and loads of confetti the Adicts stormed the stage. These Ipswich loonies were back Clockwork image, make up and all. They went straight into "Viva The Revolution". The crowd went mad, singing every word, jumping about, what followed was 40 minutes of pure madness, classic songs like "Straight Jacket", "Joker In the Pack" and "Steam Roller". Monkey was all over the place, defiantly the best band so far, and still Peter and the league to come.

After a couple more pints, I was looking forward to seeing the Test Tubes, I hadn't seen them for 4 years. I hoped they hadn't lost the humour that made them special, they hadn't with a "Good evening Wankers" they launched into classic after classic. Old Big Chin was back. The songs sounded better than ever, and what a set they were all here, "Run Like Hell", "Banned From The Pubs", "Intensive Care", "Shit Stirrer" as well as some new stuff and the usual insults from both crowd and band. The best band of the night and one of the best live bands around.

Now I like the League and most people were here to see them, Animal still looks like a Mad Max extra and still sounds the same, but the rest of the band just seemed bored and hardly moved all night, all the well known songs were there, "Women" being the best. After brilliant performances by all the bands tonite, the League looked bored and average, although the crowd loved them. But for me the Test Tubes stole the show, a really good gig helped by loads of beer and a good turnout of about 3,000. I hope there will be more at the winter gardens, god knows we need them.

NASHER.....

THE GUTTERSNIPES



TU: When did the band first form ?
SHUG: The band first started in the summer of 1987. I had advertised for "like minded musicians" to form a band, in the music press, and ended up with three pisshead wankers like myself.

TU: Why the name the Guttersnipes ?
SHUG: The way things were in the Eighties, it seemed to me that we had created a new Dickensian Society. There was a huge gap between rich and poor (Employed and Unemployed) and we were unfortunately on the wrong end of that equation, so, the name Guttersnipes seemed very appropriate !

TU: Do you often get compared with Cock Sparrer ?
SHUG: Obviously at the beginning we did. Our fist album was based on the Cock Sparrer sound. In fact, there are three songs on that album, "Sale of the Century, Today (Its happening)" and "They're telling me" which I actually wrote for Sparrer, but we split up before we had the chance to record them.

As we progressed, we developed our own sound and the comparisons aren't made now, but it was bloody funny at the beginning because some people actually believed we were Cock Sparrer playing under a different name.

TU: How would you describe your sound ?
SHUG: I wouldn't ! That's not for me to do. I write and play what I feel. It's for other people to classify/Analyse what it is ie Journalists etc.

TU: WHo's in band ?
SHUG: At the moment it is just me and Andy. Come to think of it, It's always been me and Andy. We have a healthy Anarchic, Undisciplined way of looking at things that most people can't handle. We mix with people from all walks of life and soak up as much experience from life as we can.

We have just lost another Drummer (there have been five so far and three guitarists) because they can't handle our open minded, Devil May Care approach to life.

TU: What's the bands favourite recorded track to date and why ?
SHUG: I fucking hate questions like these! As soon as you think of one song another five or six come into mind and you end up not being able to make your mind up. So, for the record, here are my and Andy's top five :

ME	ANDY
1ALREADY THERE	1COMIN' ON STRONG
2TODAY(IT"S HAPPENING)	2HIDEAWAY
3FORGOTTEN MEN	3GUNS & ROCKETS
4COMIN" ON STRONG	4ON FIRE
5THIS BEAT GOES ON	5ALREADY THERE

TU: Your songs have social messages, has this caused you problems ?
SHUG: No, not at all ! There might be afew social comments in there, but no real messages. We simply take the piss ! We have a dig at the establishment but we don't preach. We don't have the answers, if we did we'd be running the country (heaven forbid !). Mark Brennan once described our songs as "Pub Politics". That's quite

an accurate description I'd say.

TU: Would you call yourself an Oi band ?
SHUG: No I wouldn't. This relates back to question 4. I can only write an produce what I feel, what comes out of my head. I don't explain it, I just do it!

To a certain extent, yes we are an Oi band in that we are completely unpretentious. We say what we mean, what we feel ! We don't produce records for commercial purposes, for critical acclaim or for any other reason than the fact that we like doing what we do. In that respect we have an Oi attitude! But, if next week I really felt like recording a country & western song, or a trippy hippy song, I'd do it! I can't work any other way. We do what we do when we feel like doing it. We therefore, can't be associated with any dogmatic group of people who believe in doing everything the same way every time. No progress In that respect we are not an Oi band !

TU: What bands influence your music ?
SHUG: We listen to a wide range of music. In that respect every interview we do lists a completely different bunch of bands who influence us (depending on who we are into most at the time !). Of course there are the obvious ones, Pistols, stranglers, Dammed etc, but we do listen to a very wide range. Just recently I've rediscovered The Kinks. I've got the ultimate compilation, every single an B side. What a Band ! They did some brilliant songs. As far as contemporary bands go, we are very much into The Pixies and The Young Gods. Very powerful, very innovative.

TU: Do you think the death of Vinyl will push small bands out of the running ? (recording wise etc)
SHUG: Not at all. Most recordings in this country are now released on CD as well as Vinyl. In some countries ie Japan & U.S.A only CD is now being released. But, all the alternative, Indie, Punk etc stuff is going out on CD as well. In fact, it is cheaper for companies to manufacture CD than Vinyl these days so it should actually work in the smaller bands favour.

Personally I haven't got a CD player and I still like Vinyl albums, not because of sound quality as such, it's just there's something special to me about buying an album, it's big, the cover is better, I don't know, maybe I'm just an old fart but I like albums.

TU: What's the bands greatest achievement ?
SHUG: Staying together ha ha ! Seriously though that is exactly it. Playing the sort of music we do, we can't expect much in the way of recognition or financial reward or fame or whatever. We play shitty half empty pubs and release records to be bought

by a limited audience. It's a fact of life and we accept it. We see little if any money, get ripped off frequently and get treated like shit by record companies, gig promoters etc. However, we love playing the music we play and despite the numerous set backs and disappointments we will do so as long as we still enjoy it.

TU: How has your new LP done and are you pleased with critical response ?
SHUG: I wish I knew. Getting information from record companies is like getting blood from a stone. Getting money from them is damn near impossible. We are told we shall receive a statement of sales in the near future (Bollocks !), however, we do know that it has receive a wide distribution in Europe and was released in the states in August. The response we've had in reviews and comments from fans has been extra-ordinary. We thought we were just releasing another album, but everyone seems to think "Hairy On The Inside" is a bit special. We're flattered !

TU: What other releases has the band produced ?
SHUG: We released a single "Addicted TO Love" ourselves in 1988. Our first album "The Poor Dress Up" was released by Razor Records in 1989. I understand that album has sold out and no further copies are being pressed. We are trying to get the tapes back from Razor but we have had nothing but grief from that company. They are well dodgy ! We went to Vice who released the "Hairy On The Inside" album. We shall shortly be recording our third album, which we believe will be an absolute killer, cocky bastards that we are. Watch this space !

TU: Where do you play most of your gigs ? (what area etc)
SHUG: London obviously, but we have travelled a bit, Glasgow (regularly), Belfast, the North East, anywhere that will have us really.

TU: Have you any plans to tour Europe ?
SHUG: We seem to have got into a Catch 22 situation in Europe. We speak to promoters who handle either venues that are to small (We are far more popular in Germany & Scandinavia than anywhere else) or who handle really big venues that we couldn't fill. As soon as we find some middle ground we'll be there, we've had a taste of Germany already and they treated us like fucking rock stars ! Too tempting not to follow up.

TU: Have you anything else to say to my readers ?
SHUG: If you have followed The Guttersnipes over the last 5 years, thank you very much. If not, why the fuck don't you give us a listen ?
No seriously, if it wasn't for you buying the records, if it wasn't for the fanzines and the people willing to do whatever is necessary to keep the street scene alive, there would be no Street Scene.
Thanks a million for your support. Shug...

DISCOGRAPHY...

ADDICTED TO LOVE 7" RAZOR MUSIC GUTT 1

THE POOR DRESS UP LP RAZOR MUSIC RAZ 42

GUNS & ROCKETS 7" FLEXI W.O.T. FANZINE

IT"S ALL OVER 7" 3 TRACK BOOTLEG

HAIRY ON THE INSIDE LP/CD VICE RECORDS HABIT 2

UNKNOWN 14 MC INCLUDES TRACK "HIDEAWAY"

STREETS AHEAD MC INCLUDES TRACK "KIDS DON'T CARE"

SOUNDS

THE MONROES KABIMBA ELBTONAL
This one is quite difficult to review as this German band plays an unique style I've never heard from another band before; it's a mixture of Ska, Rockabilly, Reggae and Folk. They are all very skilled musicians (the band has won Germany's most important band competition), but I doubt that this record will appeal to fans of pure Ska. If you are into all of the above mentioned styles, this record is a must for you, but the average Ska fan should listen to it before buying it. 'Warning' is my favourite track as it is the most 'skaish' song of this LP and I really like 'War In A Babylon' and '1000 Good Reasons', but to be honest the other songs aren't at all my cup of tea.
Elbtonal, Grunow & Ritter GbR, Schlüterstr.12, W-2000 Hamburg 13, Germany.

SPRINGTOIFEL LIVE '82-'92
90 minutes and 28 tracks of Germany's fun Oi! band No.1 crammed on this cassette. As the title suggests this tape covers 10 years of the band. There are well known favourites such as 'Horde Wilder', 'Mainz Geht Unter' or 'Lässige Hunde' and some are in real weird and chaotic versions, especially 'Lilly', with a certain Willy Wucher on guest vocals, although it's more pure bawling. Beside this previously unreleased tracks are to be found here, e.g. 'Groschen Fällt' or 'Das Minarett' and there's actually one non-live track, 'Oi Konzert', a new song which was recorded during a rehearsal. There's no need to recommend this to fans of the band and for those who haven't heard of this band it's a good and cheap oppurtunity to get to know them. The tape is only DM 10 plus postage from Springtoifel, Postfach 666, W-6500 Mainz 22, Germany.

BOOTS & BRACES DIE ANDERE SEITE NOWOTNY'S NOIZE
Third LP of one of Germany's oldest Oi! bands and definitively their best one so far. It's not pure Oi!, more Oi!/Punk with some hardrock tinges, but that's nothing to find fault with, as it works really well. 'Geisterfahrer' is a great song with a singalong chorus and 'All die Jahre', which includes some harmonica playing, has to be the best song of the LP, excellent lyrics (all songs are sung in German). It's just a pity that the boys - although they have a label of their own now - are still on a fucking metal subsidary label, which is only interested in making money. Available from Matt und Florian Walz, Winterberg 4, 7176 Braunsbach, Germany. Udo...

ZÜNDSTOFF IN DER STADT WALZWERK RECORDS
Debut 7" of this new German band, whose demo was reviewed in the last issue. Three tracks of the demo are to be found on this EP, all in re-recorded and improved versions. Their style draws heavily from German punk bands of old such as Daily Terror. 'In der Stadt' is a hard hitting song with great lyrics and 'Nur Spaß' is excellent as well, but the third track, 'Ohne mich' is a bit to slow methinks. Anyway, well worth getting, especially if you like German punk and Oi! stuff. Like the Boots and Braces LP you can get this EP from Matt und Florian Walz, Winterberg 4, 7176 Braunsbach, Germany. Udo...

POKALMATADORE DAT IS SCHALKE 04 TEENAGE REBEL RECORDS
This band are just Lokalmatadore in disguise and on this EP they sound like the Cockney Rejects in their prime, but instead of following the Hammers these lads support Schalke 04 (not at all my favourite team), so the tree songs are dedicated to this German team. They play basic and malodic Oi!/Punk with terrace stayled chorusses. Hearing the record you get the impression that half a stadium is bawling. Bloody brilliant. Udo...

M.T.A. - SEMTEX BLUES E.P. - Nothing original about this e.p. but with the lack of originality in the music scene this is still one of the best releases I've heard in a while. The music is a kinda Yank H.C. with a couple of tuneful riffs here and there with social aware lyrics and a brilliant production. So can you afford to miss it? Send £2.50/$5(outside U.K.) to: M.T.A., P.O. BOX 857, BRIGHTON, BN2 2TJ, U.K.

SOUNDS

The Hitchhikers demo
The Hitchhikers are the first Swedish Ska Band, I've heard they sing in English and make good use of the Sax and Harp. The nine tracks I heard were good but needed better mixing on some as you couldn't hear the singing properly. Non Working Generation was great and I loved the harp playing. Scooter Girl and Take A hike were my favourites from this very European sounding band, which is probably due to the singers accent. I've no contact address as this was sent to me by a friend, but I should have it for next issue.

Verska-Vis Dan's L'Espace
8 live tracks from Verska-Vis of the finest quality mixed at Drop Studio, the live tape follows well and Verska's Ska soul feel is prevalent though out. Go Out Anymore starts off the demo and this must be the bands favourite track as it appears on the previous two tapes. But it is good. Time Hard is great as is a Message to you Rudy. It's a well produced tape with some classic tracks, but I would like to heard some studio stuff because I know this band could record some classic tracks. Contact VerSka -Vis 4 Rue Duguesclin 35000, Rennes, France.

Streets Ahead V/A
Streets Ahead is a new punk collection, 19 power tracks. The first side covers punk with the Strookas, Agent 88, The Humour, Guttersnipes, and Those Unknown. Agent 88 sound a bit like the early Clash with their track Circle Of Deceit. The Guttersnipes play a classic The Kids Don't Care. Side Two starts up with Contempts' 12 Years On The Wretched Ones followed with America's Most Wanted. Face To Face No Authorization is a stormer. This tape is good value for money. Best tracks Andy Bought A Handgun by Niblick Hebane and Contempt's 12 years on, Pure Punk Get it. Contact Trev, 57 Briardene, Burnopfield, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE16 6LJ, U.K. Cost £2.50.

CockSparrer Rarities LCS 008
13 rare tracks well almost, if you have True Grit you'll have most of the tracks contained with in, well 10 of them. This CD sounds as if it's the True Grit demos. The only tracks I didn't have were Trouble on the Terraces and Chip On My Shoulder 2. It's a good Cd but I was a little Disappointed that it didn't contain some other tracks, now the band has reformed perhaps we'll have some new material to bite into. It's rare to the causel Oi fan but to most Sparrer addicts it will fall short of their expectations. Limited edition pressing of 800, mine wasn't numbered, the covers a bit naff and theirs no write up. Worth getting cos it Sparrer. Contact Link Records.

Agent Bulldog Livsstil Coitus 1
Sweden's Premier Oi bands debut release, 12 track in all, sung in Swedish, but these thoughtful lads have enclosed an explanation sheet, you also get a song book but thats in Swedish but the pictures are good. So what's it sound like, great a bit like Close Shave. Starting off with Karl XII which is about a Swedish king who kept sweden free from the Russians. Stick follows with good sing along lyrics so has Stockholm Skins which I really enjoyed. The second side kicks off with Svea Rike (The Land Of Sweden) next is my favourite-Tror Du Pa Det ? (Do You Believe in That ?). But the best track of the whole Lp has to be Ultra- Supa (Ultra Drinking) which just happens to be about drinking beer. Agent Bulldog have released a killer of an album. It's classic Oi I only wish Thomas had sung in English. Well worth getting. Contact Thomas Botos, Hokensgata 8b, 116 46 Stockholm, Sweden. Cost $17 or 25DM in Europe $18 rest of the world.

The Elite That What I Want Single
This is Elite's first single, the first of many I hope. Thats What I Want is Street Rock at it's best, good lyrics, a great singer and the music bowled me over I couldn't find any faults with it. My Love For You starts off with a new age sound then the band hit you full in the face with some great guitar riffs. Smile has some good sing along chorus and this band has a sound of it's own. When's the album out thats what I want to know.You even get a lyric sheet. Buy it.

Apocalypse Punk Tour 1981 V/A Link CD 153
15 live punk tracks taken from the above tour. The League kick off the CD with We're the League, and Discharge finish it with Decontrol. This CD catches the second wave of punk, the energy and the power. My favourite tracks were Living Next Door to Alice by Chron Gen and the Exploited's Barmy Army. A good Cd to bring back the memories.

The Best Of Oi Volume 2 V/A Link CD 158
Any Oi boy worth his salt should have most of these tracks on various Lp's, but here they are crammed into this silver disc. 25 Oi greats by some of the best bands The Business, CockSparrer, Menace to name few. It's worth getting as it's a good collection and shows Ois' power.

Curse Of The Hotrods Eddie & The Hotrods Link CD 157
Punk R&B, The Hotrods recorded this Lp way back in 1979, and for reasons unknown these tracks were never released. Maybe I'm bias as the latter part of the 70's and early 80's music influenced me, but to be honest is music today this powerful, I don't think so. 15 fast R&B punk, Rod fans shouldn't miss it. Great Stuff.

Bob Marley Songs Of Freedom TGCBX 1
4 CD's of Bob Marley from Judge Not to Bobs last rendition of the Redemption Song at his last concert in Pittsburgh. Included in this CD set is a comprehensive book with details of the tracks and Bobs career. 78 tracks of pure Marley, this is the collection of all collections. Featuring unreleased mixes. Although most Ska fans will only enjoy the first disc. As the others cover his reggae years. At 30 pounds it's a bargain, and only one million issued world wide.

Anti-Heroes Election Day Single
My favourite American Oi band, Election Day tackles their country politics. American Oi always sounds a bit like Hardcore, but not the Antiheros. There's some great guitar riffs on Election Day. Your Never Put Us Down, has some great lyrics about real American Skins. Oi kicks off with some of the guitaring I've heard in years Van Halen eat your heart out, Oi has good singalong lyrics this song has all the characteristics of a classic Oi number, which it is. Contact G.M.M. Records 190 Hale Street, Atlanta, Georgia U.S.A.

PKRK ATCHOUM COMBAT ROCK
Superb LP. This is absolutely my favourite record at the moment. I must have played it about 100 times, but I never tire of it. PKRK means punk rock and punk rock at it's fucking best is to be found on this LP. There are 11 tracks, impossible to say which one is best, as all are bloody brilliant. This record has everything you want, powerful guitars, great vocals (the singer is really skilled, but unfortunately all songs but one are sung in French, so I can't say what the lyrics are about) and an excellent production. It's a long time since I have last heard a band with that much energy and enthusiasm. I hope to have an interview with them for the next issue.
Combat Rock Records, c/o 2 Chemin des Grandes Vignes, 57160 SCY-CHAZELLES, France.

MOTHER'S PRIDE GREATEST HITS VOL.3 JONES'N'JONES RECORDS
Don't be fooled by the title of this. This mini LP is the debut recording of a promising new German ska band. 7 tracks are to be found here, of which 'Montego Bay' has to be the best, great uptempo singalong ska with great harmonica playing. The other tracks are more 'reggaeish' numbers. There are two instrumentals, 'Exodus' and 'The Whip' thrown in for good measure, which stand proof for the band's ability to play classics in their very own style.
Jones'n'Jones Records, c/o Leo Wehling, Viktoria-Luise-Platz 12A, W-1000 Berlin 30, Germany.

New York Fever The Toasters Moon/Pork Pie...
Fast, furious in your face Ska, The Toasters as they used to be. New York Fever should have you on your feet. "Plough Shares Into Guns" has a classic rhythm and is real party music. The toasting on "History Book Version" is great and the cover of the Rudies "Night Train" is a mind blower which contains some great trombone playing. Side one finishes off with "Shebeen". "Johnny Forsake Her" starts off side two nice and slow. Then it's back to the Toasters skanky rhythm with "Too Much Happening" and "Pool Shark". "B27" is nice an bluesy with a great Sax solo. The Lp finishes off with Two versions one of "PLoughshares" and the other of "Shebeen". An excellent new Toasters Lp well worth adding to your collection..

I've toyed with the idea of this column for a couple of issues, but when Trev wrote to me complaining about CDs, I thought it was time to start the column. So what's the idea behind Let's Get Angry. Well this is where you voice your opinions, what pisses you off within the scene. This is your chance to voice your complaints, so send them in. To T.U. in England. Ok lets hear what Trev has to say.

It's hard to know where to start in this article, but I think the best way is to tell you the cost of these bits of plastic. How many of you know that to manufacture a CD it costs the record companies the same as it does to produce an Lp? or in numerical terms £1.00!!! So is it any wonder that the big record companies are doing their best to phase out vinyl, when CDs usually sell for about £5.00 more for the same tracks ? Make no bones about it they don't really care about "Better sound quality" no, it's just another way for them to make a quick killing.

My best friend has shown me a DIY distribution list (Rugger Bugger Records) and on it is a long playing Cd by Watt Tyler. It has 52 tracks on it and sells for £3.00!! Thats ten pounds cheaper than Cds in the shops.

As for (Better sound quality", well if you've got a quality music centre thats bollocks. The only difference (assuming you do have a decent set up) is that CDs are louder, so ain't it better to turn up the volume than fork out an extra fiver? Ok, maybe classical fans may notice a slight difference but I doubt many Tighten Up readers will be into Beethoven. The most sickening thing about all this is that if the record companies get their way then eventually you won't be able to buy new needles for your record player and hundreds of quids worth of precious records will be wasted. However, it doesn't look as if they're going to get away with it. Most of my mates are too wise to pay £13.00 for 12 songs (or whatever) and some shops are so greedy, their racks are so tightly packed with CDs that you can't flick through them and people can't be arsed to lift em up one by one. Also especially as there's a recession on, who can afford a CD player anyway? Bad timing, record companies.

I actually have a CD player yet the only CD I have is one that was sent to me by a record company to reveiw in my fanzine, and unless something happens to the price of CDs, thats the way it'll stay.

For those of you who've been busy stocking up on your pieces of £13-a-shot-extortion, I've got news for you. In Japan now there's something newer than CD-it's called a micro cassette, and just as banks have decided they're not making enough money (and thus are trying to end free banking) you can bet your arse, the major record companies in a few years time will introduce these as well. If they get their way your stereo will be the size of a studio in order to play all their various formats. Don't play their game.

Trev Newcastle..

Footnote- In Japan there's only one pressing plant for Vinyl left. Don't let it happen here- boycott all full price CDs.

Well Trev has had his say what do you think, write in and tell us. I know I'll continue to buy them as a lot of rare Reggae and Ska cuts are now coming out on CD.

DEMOS

Newmatics demo
The Newmatics are a new band to the scene, and this is their first demo and its a powerful debut. I can see this band going places. So whats on this compact cassette, It starts off with Safe and Sound a poppy Ska number which reminded me of the Piranhas that Brighton based band of the early eighties. Easy Target followed and I started to get the feel that this wouldn't of sounded out of place in the early eighties, the band blends New wave and Ska really well. An excellent debut a band to watch. Contact Ian Soulsby, 10 Middleton Court, 76 Plaistow Lane, Bromley, Kent, BR1 3JF, U.K.

Erase Today The Age Of Unreason
Blackpools Erase Todays' well produced demo blew my head in. Kicking off with Melting the listener is catapulted back to 77, great stuff. This is followed by Got A Revolution a real classic. Miles Away has some good talk over lyrics similar to Crass, but what they say they mean. Great Punk sound with out the cliche, Get it. Contact Andy Higgins, 51 Southbourne Road, Blackpool, FY3 95H, U.K.

Yebo What A Desater
Not really a demo this one more like a tape Lp, 10 tracks in all from this German based band. You Really Got Me a Ska instrumental cover of the Kinks classic begins the tape, which contains some great horn playing. Dead End street is a slow jumpy number and I was impressed with the vocals. Midnight In Ethiopia is a nice Ganja inspired riddem. In the first three tracks we have heard the band go from Ska, Rocksteady to Reggae without any problem, then it's back to Ska for the last two tracks of side one. I flipped the tape over to be confront by the Ska Classic Phoenix City. What A Desater is a great Ja blues track and sounds a little like something Prince Buster may of recorded. Sound Pressure is a Ska instrumental , finishing off with Rockers Rumba. One thing for sure this tape is no Disaster. Classic Ska from a great band. Get it. Contact Just a phone number check next issue.

Boisterous Boot Bairns
Hard, Fast and dare I say it Boisterous Oi music, from those Northumberian nutters Boisterous. It's a five track demo, but I also got the Hammer Demo as well, so if you ask the lads nicely, they should do the same. Right onto the demo, the first two tracks cover a typical Oi theme, Britains Youth and Working Class Man are great Adrenaline inducing tracks, especially Working Class man with its great guitar intro, There's even a poem brought to you via the Monologue. Oi Oi Aving a Laugh! is great and really sums the band up, good fun Oi. Poor Mans Revenge finishes off the real demo and a fitting end it is. The two tracks for Hammer are great a re-vamp of Working Class Man and the other I have No idea what the title is but it's a stormer. Great Northern Oi from a great band. Contact Boisterous, 74 Highburn Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 6QB, U.K.

It's Ok I'm A Policeman Nutty Boys Single All Formats
The Nutty Boys first single, like the Lp I had to listen to it a couple of times to get used to it. You see everytime I hear their name I think of Madness. So what's the single like, well great if your a Nutty Boys fan, ok if your a Ska fan and a normal punter well he'll just be confused. It's a fusion of sounds with the Nutty Boys beat holding it all together, worth getting just out of interest. Our Price should have it..

THE AGE OF UNREASON

ERASE TØDAY

ERASE TØDAY

Boisterous

BOOT-BAIRN

Baby I Love You Devon Russell 7" Magic Records
A slow Rocksteady number, with vocals from Devon Russell it's hard to believe that this was recorded in the ninties, sure to get you shuffling. "She's Gone away" is the B- side it's a nice little Ska 'N' B track by Skaville Train and have caught the feel of the sixties really well. Buy it it's a classic single and is well worth supporting. Available from FREDERIC DORNIER, EDENHALL N.H.,11 LYNDHURST GARDENS, LONDON, NW3 5NS. Cost UK. £2.50, Can/US £3.05, Europe £2.70, Jap/Aus/NZ £3.15 post paid...

This Is Not Charlie Chaplin Tom Collins and the Cocktail Shakers. 7" Single.
Chaplinesque is a manic fast Ska number, that will have you dripping with sweat, great brass and harp playing. Animated Violence on the flip starts off a little slower, but soon picks up. Tom Collins play a great blend of Jumpy Ska that I was begining to miss over here, a great single, get it. Contact T.C.A.T.C.S. 34040, CTY, ROAD 665, PAW PAW, MI 49079, USA.

SKANDAL NO. 3 PORK PIE
Yet another great release from Pork Pie. As usual this sampler exclusively features Ska bands from Germany. 10 bands are on this record and it's hard to say which track is best, as there is a very high overall standart, but in my opinion Yebo with their blinding 'Skazz' steal the show, traditional Ska performed in a superb manner, no doubt the German Skatalites. Of the other tracks, 'The Way Of The Dragon' by No Sprts (great instrumental), 'Lilly' by Ngobo Ngobo, who are probably the most exciting new band in the German scene and 'Racist World' by Fun Republic (the successors of the legendary Skaos!) stand out, but as I've already said before there's no bad track here at all. Defenitely another 'must buy' from Pork Pie.